

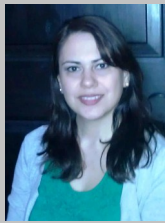
Ward 6 Staff



Steve Kozachik



Ann Charles



Diana Amado



Molly Thrasher



Amy Stabler



Ward 6 - Newsletter

Tucson First

September 11, 2013

ADA and other Disability Items

Last year the voters approved \$100M in bonds for the improvement of our roads. We're spending that in increments of \$20M per year, starting now. The work is for curb-to-curb improvements. That's what we told you it'd be used for, and I'm committed to making sure that is where the money goes. It's a simple matter of trust.

None of the bond money can therefore be used for sidewalks, curb access ramps, reconstructing driveway aprons and those sorts of things in order to ensure that the streets we're redoing meet ADA (Disability) standards. We need to make sure they're accessible. With that in mind, TDOT put together a list of needed improvements that fall under that category related to 10 of our road projects. The funding source they've identified is HUD 108 money.

HUD 108 is a program that we implemented a couple of years ago that is primarily thought of as a way to offer bridge loans for private sector work. So far, we haven't had any applications finalized. But the fund can also be used as a mechanism with which to get up-front money for projects such as these ADA improvements. That's what we've decided to do. The debt will be paid back over the next 18 years at \$100K per year using our annual CDBG money as the funding source. TDOT chose that as a funding source because those dollars can be used to remove material barriers to the mobility or accessibility of elderly or disabled persons, in particular where that benefits mainly low-moderate income residents.

Since public rights of way are required to be accessible to the disabled, and our General Fund is tapped out for funding options of long term debt, I support this creative use of HUD 108 and the CDBG funding mechanism this year. The reality is though that we need to preserve the 108 money for the economic development uses we originally had in mind. Other funding sources will need to be uncovered for future streetscape work.

The road projects involved include the following:

- 1) Grande, from Congress to Star Pass
- 2) Tucson Blvd, from Valencia to the City limits
- 3) Auto Mall Drive, from Wetmore to Oracle
- 4) Mission, from Star Pass to Ajo
- 5) Oracle, from Glenn to Drachman
- 6) Ajo, from I-19 to Country Club
- 7) Prince, from Oracle to Stone
- 8) Stone, from Roger to Prince



Important Phone Numbers

Tucson Police Department

911 or 791-4444
nonemergency

Mayor & Council Comment Line

791-4700

Neighborhood Resources

791-4605

Park Wise

791-5071

Water Issues

791-3242

Pima County Animal Control

243-5900

Street Maintenance 791-3154

Planning and Development Services 791-5550

Southwest Gas

889-1888

Gas Emergency/ Gas Leaks

889-1888

West Nile Virus

Hotline

243-7999

Environment

Service

791-3171

Graffiti Removal

792-2489

AZ Game & Fish

628-5376

Continued: A Message From Steve

9) 6th Street, from Stone to Country Club

10) Speedway, from Main to 2nd Ave.

To have authorized the road improvements and left the sidewalks, etc. not accessible would have been doing less than a full project.



Also on Tuesday, we rejected an increase to the **Sun Van** low income fares. In essence the vote was to take off the table an increase to low income fares on Sun Van and charge staff with coming back to us with other ideas for getting our arms around increasing transit costs. That might include State sources, or service efficiencies. We'll be looking for suggestions from staff in 45 days.

Since the day the proposal to increase Sun Van low income fares was made I've insisted

that any fare increases to this group of low income, generally disabled riders be means tested. On Tuesday, I made the motion to simply take these rate increases out of the conversation.

We have had Sun Van in operation since 1987. It provides transportation services to those individuals who are unable to use Sun Tran's fixed route service due to their disability. Eligibility is for people who have a current ADA paratransit card issued by the City.

We served a little over 500,000 rider trips in fy'12. The numbers are steady which indicates the need of our most vulnerable.

Two years ago the council voted to increase the low income Sun Tran fare by a dime. The proposal in front of us was to go from 40 cents to 60 cents. Several of my colleagues objected to "a 50% increase" to that fare all at one time. I voted for the full 20 cents increase. For us now to argue that a 100% increase this year, followed by another one next year (totaling \$2, not 20 cents) imposed on those who cannot access Sun Tran is inconsistent with the objections raised over the much smaller Sun Tran increases.

We were offered a compromise by a letter from the Commission on Disability Issues that would have agreed to a 50 cent increase this year. That's still doubling the round trip costs. I think the place to look for long term transit income is back in the Sun Tran system, not targeting this cohort of riders who are least able to suffer the increases. While I appreciate the offer by CODI, it was clearly not their first preference, but was one sent to us under the assumption that the elimination of the low income fare on Sun Van was an accomplished fact. It wasn't, and we didn't.

Pima Council in Aging also shared some ideas to help save Sun Van costs. So did the Beacon Foundation. We've asked staff to look into those for viability and report back to us as soon as possible.



Important Phone Numbers

Senator John
McCain (R)
520-670-6334

Senator Jeff
Flake (R)
520-575-8633

Congressman
Ron Barber (D)
(2nd District)
520-881-3588

Congressman
Raul Grijalva (D)
(3rd District)
520-622-6788

Governor Janice
Brewer (R)
Governor of Arizona
602-542-4331

Toll free:
1-800-253-0883

State Legislators

Toll Free
Telephone:
1-800-352-8404

Internet:
www.azleg.gov

Mayor Jonathan
Rothschild
791-4201

City Infoguide
[http://
cms3.tucsonaz.gov/
infoguide](http://cms3.tucsonaz.gov/infoguide)

Back to Roads...

Let me shift back to the Prop 409 road item briefly. Those bonds are earmarked to go 85% for arterials, and 15% for residential roads. That means from the annual bond proceeds, we'll spend about \$3M p/yr on the streets in your neighborhoods.

We get regular calls from people wanting to know when their neighborhood streets will be addressed. What's going on is the Prop 409 citizen bond committee is working with TDOT to identify where the problems are located, look at the level of repairs needed in each area, and then looking at the \$3M to see how we can make the most out of our funding. For reference, here's what that money will buy:

- 130 lane miles of fog seal
- 46 miles of slurry
- 33 miles of microsurface
- 32 miles of chip seal
- 20 miles of cape seal
- 16 miles of double chip
- 15 miles of overlay
- 13 miles of mill and overlay
- 3 miles of total reconstruction

With only 12% of our residential streets in good or excellent condition, you can see that the bond committee is going to have to pick and choose carefully as to how that money is best allocated. If we spent all the money on the very worst areas, we'd get about 3 miles of bang for our buck. If we just went around fog sealing 130 miles of streets, the repairs would hold for a couple of years and we'd be back to where we are now.

The decisions as to which streets will get what forms of treatment are coming near the end of the year. The decisions have to be made in a non-political manner; that is, let's let the committee do their work so the greater good of the community is reflected in their recommendations.

.....and one final note – as we see Prop 409 projects come in under budget, I'll be advocating for rolling the money into projects that we had targeted for next fiscal year. As I noted above, we told you this money would go to road repair. Despite the fact that streetscapes and other amenities would be nice, that's not what we told you we'd spend this money on.

Pima Animal Care Center

You've seen some run-up to this item in the last couple of weeks. On Tuesday, we agreed to allocate \$150K from the existing IGA that we have with the County for PACC operations, to the Animal Welfare Alliance of Southern Arizona for the purpose of funding their spay/neuter program. We license about 50,000 animals per year. The \$150K is the equivalent to what the County did when they earmarked the \$3 license fee increase to spay/neuter.

We have a fee for service agreement with PACC. We pay them about \$3.5M annually under our Intergovernmental Agreement, but because those dollars are rarely enough to cover the full costs PACC incurs for serving City animal control work, we generally write another check to fill the balance at the end of the fiscal year. We collect about \$1M in license fees and fines. All of that goes into our General Fund. What the County and PACC will do now is to pull \$150K from that IGA money, and at the end of the year we'll still get that bill for services the remaining IGA money didn't cover. It's kind of 'pay me now, or pay me later.'

Between now and the end of the fiscal year there will be some impact on shelter costs as a result of the money we're sending to AWASA. That'll reduce by some amount the level we're billed at the end of the fiscal year.

Two years ago when we increased our license fees by \$3, we did not specify that the delta would go to spay/neuter. Why am I now advocating that we do that? Because PACC euthanizes over 7,000 animals per year. They simply don't have the room to house as many as they get in. The average fertile cat can produce up to 5 litters per year - for dogs, that's 2 per year. For the last 3 years, the AWASA program has spay/neutered just over 3,000 animals per year. Last year alone they handled over 14,000 animals from the City of Tucson (doesn't count the rest of Pima County) and killed 5,600 from the City.

My proposal would pay for between 1,500 and 2,000 spay/neuters. When you add up the number of litters dogs and cats can have you can see that the shelter costs we'll be saving is going to be significant. More importantly though, the number of euthanized dogs and cats will decrease.

We're killing over 7,000 animals per year out at the shelter. That number will be reduced, and it will save our General Fund money over time. It's a public health and safety issue, it makes fiscal sense, and it's the ethical thing to do. Even if it didn't save dollars, it'd be the right thing to do. But in this case, it hits the trifecta of benefits - health and safety, dollars, and ethics.

We know that sterilization reduces shelter costs. It also reduces the number of animals we kill in our shelters. There's no rational reason for us not to earmark funds to the spay/neuter program. The council did the right thing in making this change.



One final note, if you'd like to volunteer out at PACC to spend some time walking the dogs, getting them out of the cages for a brief time, they'd love to have your help. You can find them at 4000 N. Silverbell, or call them at 243.5900 for the times they'd be able to hand you a leash.

Support of Animal 'No-Kill'

And by way of reminder, this month, Lovin' Spoonfuls is featuring the SNIP Burger. It's a house made soy burger that comes with sides. This month for each burger sold, Lovin' Spoonfuls is donating \$1 to No-Kill Pima County's SNIP project (Spay Neuter Intervention Project) to help provide low cost spay neuter services to low income families with pets.

For more information about No-Kill Pima County and SNIP, you can go to www.nokillpimacounty.org

And Feast ((3719 E. Speedway) is donating 20% of proceeds from all sales to Southern Arizona Greyhound Adoption on September 17th. You need a flyer to be eligible – go to

sagreyhoundadoption.org to get one printed out.

There are lots of ways you can participate in these community animal control opportunities.

Pima County Regional Flood Control District / Arroyo Chico Project

The Army Corps of Engineers is preparing to start construction of some wash improvements in January, '14. The proposed work will consist of:

- Construction of a new major drain under 8th Street from 4th Avenue to 3rd Avenue, running north across the open field at Tucson High School, and terminating south of the stadium. This new storm drain will re-route flows in the existing High School Wash Storm Drain into the recently completed 8th Street Drainage Improvements.
- New catch basins to collect and remove street runoff on 3rd Avenue and 8th Street.

There are also changes being proposed for Arroyo Chico in areas that have some history of contamination dating back to the '80's. The Corps is holding public hearings on all of that work in order to give you a chance to ask your questions, voice your concerns and talk with them about their plans for mitigating any possible negative impacts downstream of the improvements.

The public meetings will take place on Wednesday, September 11th from 6 until 7:30pm.

There will be a presentation at 6:15. The meeting will take place at Miles Elementary School, 1400 E. Broadway. Some of you have shared your concerns. This is the meeting you should attend in order to speak w/the experts on the plans. I know they have done similar work in other drainage ways – I'll be just as interested as you to hear what they have to say with respect to Arroyo Chico.

For additional information regarding the project see the Regional Flood Control District project website at

<http://rfcd.pima.gov/projects/arroyochico/>

Water Policy

Many of you have heard me say that the two most challenging, and important issues we deal with in Ward 6 are land use and our water policy. On Tuesday, we finished off some very important water related changes, the net effect of which will be to continue to preserve and protect this precious asset.

One of the items we updated was how we will judge applicants who want to tap into our CAP line down by Pima Mine Road. There are several entities who would like to take some of the pipeline capacity, and in order to de-politicize the decision, we adopted a set of criteria that objectively assess the applications when they come in. None of the existing potential applicants would summarily be dismissed based on these criteria. They simply have to agree to protecting the health of the aquifer, and be ready to go with their permits.

Some of the general themes of the criteria are that we are guaranteed the project would positively contribute to attaining the Tucson Active Management Area Safe Yield goal (we're not taking out more groundwater than is being restored,) that the project results in a net gain of water to the Tucson basin, that the project does not degrade the groundwater quality, and that with permits in hand, the project is ready to go within a year from the application.

In our prep material, Community Water's partner (Augusta – aka, Rosemont Mine) was named. In previous material that had not been done. Rosemont is a significant corporate

sponsor of the Athletics Department where I work. In order to avoid even the perception of impropriety, I recused myself from voting on this item.

Another of the water items clarified the appeal rights of applicants who want to tap into our water system here in Tucson. We adopted rules that formalize the appeal process, identify who's on the appeals board, and make sure that we're looking at a variety of criteria when judging whether or not to allow a given applicant to use Tucson water. Things beyond just an economic impact consideration are important to add to the mix. Specifically, we want to make sure that our capacity to serve the wider public isn't negatively impacted by new users. Those may be long term considerations that, if a project is considered as a 'one-off' applicant, may or may not be reviewed. With the final decision coming back to M&C, we'll have those broader concerns in mind when reviewing the appeals board decisions.

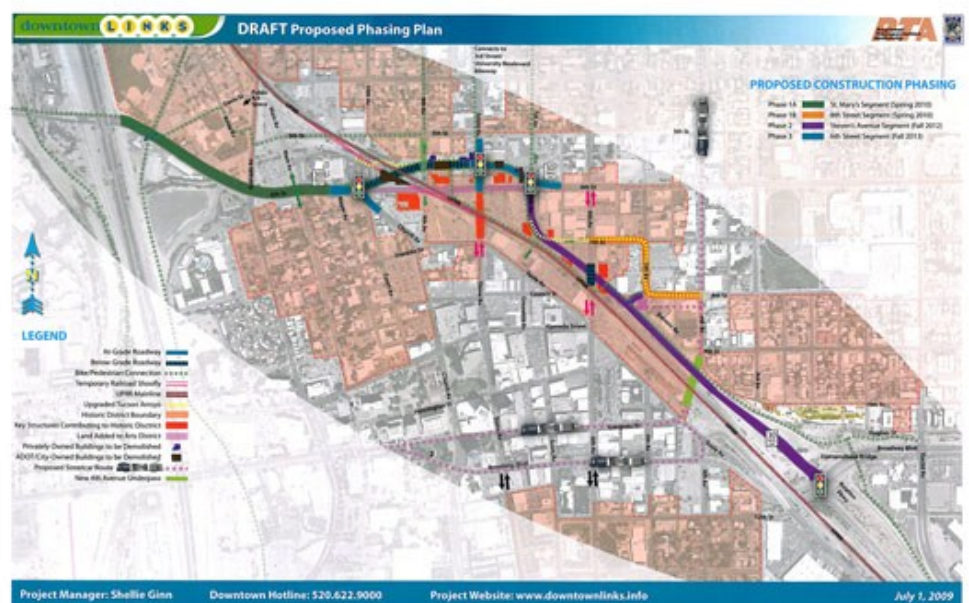
These are two very significant water related changes. They won't directly impact you on a daily basis, but with recent stories about drops in the CAP levels, we at the M&C are going to continue to be proactive in how we manage this key asset.

Land Use

The other tough issue – at least for Ward 6 – is land use policy. On Tuesday we reviewed some processes that are in play right now that relate to development along the streetcar route. Talking about land use, overlays, infill incentive districts and related issues can get into the weeds pretty quickly. I'm going to be real general, not to pander, but to keep your interest for those of you who don't eat and sleep this stuff. For those of you who do, you'll understand the surface level descriptions and know that at upcoming subcommittee and other meetings, the details will be worked out.

There were a few general areas we dealt with:

- a) Expansion of the Downtown Links overlay area – The Downtown Links is a roadway that'll essentially be a by-pass of the downtown area for people who are headed to or from I-10. Since it intersects some of the streetcar route, as well as some already built-out areas, we're looking at design standards that will balance the need for appropriate development with preserving the character of the areas through which the roadway is going. Here's a map that shows the route:



- b) Other than an update on the process, we talked about expanding the perimeter of the overlay zone. Armory Park neighborhood wants to be included – we talked about how that can happen (being included lends a level of protection to their historic assets,) and I indicated that as a Ward 6 priority. We'll see how that plays itself out.
- c) Infill Incentive and Greater Infill Incentive Districts – There's a subcommittee of the Planning commission that is coming close to having some recommendations related to how we provide design and development incentives within the boundaries of the IID and GIID. The most prominently mentioned change is to include a Design Review Process, similar to what exists in the Main Gate area, so a balanced group of stake holders can work design concepts into projects that are compatible with the unique characteristics of the surrounding areas. The subcommittee should have its recommendations to the Planning Commission next month.
- d) Parking – As we see more private sector development along the streetcar route, we'll need to have in place an area-wide plan for how we'll accommodate the new number of cars. The streetcar will help, but nobody expects it to take up all of the excess traffic that new businesses and housing will create. Parkwise is putting an area plan together and we should see that sometime mid-fall.
- e) Streetscape standards – And finally, if all we build along the streetcar route is rail and overhead electrical lines, it'll be pretty ugly. We're developing a pallet of streetscape, and identifying funding sources so that we have that overall plan also in place. There have been a couple of incidents lately in which TDOT has had to remove trees that were growing up too close to the overhead electrical lines. Somewhere in the design review process, they never should have been approved. It's now up to the City to replace those trees with compatible species, and not make the same mistake again.

Streetscape is all of the curb-to-building part of finishing off a project. Our goal is to make the downtown area an inviting destination. We'll post this up as a reminder of how not to achieve that:



The other area we talked about on Tuesday was approving the formation of an Advisory Panel through the Urban Land Institute to give us a set of recommendations related to prioritizing, and describing types of development that we should encourage on both the west end of the streetcar line, and around the TCC. The cost to the City will not exceed the \$15K range. I'm not sure that I see a great value to another study, but in as much as the owner of a

large tract of affected land is paying for about ½ of the study costs, I agreed to support it. What will be of value coming out of the report is identifying design standards, and laying out some appropriate adjacencies in uniquely built-out areas. The results of the study will be recommendations, not necessarily restricting what we can build in a given location.

Also, we are about to issue a Request for Qualifications related to how the Ronstadt Transit Center might be enhanced. I'm interested in seeing the creative suggestions that come from qualified developers who will have a financial stake in the success of what they're proposing.

Project RAISE

To refresh your memory, this is the project we organized to offer diversion from jail from victims of prostitution. I phrase it that way intentionally because the ladies who are caught up in that activity are suffering from the standpoint of physical, psychological and often-times chemical exploitation.

RAISE is Responsible Alternatives to Incarceration for the Sexually Exploited. The participants in the program are CODAC (they bring a ton to the table – housing, transportation, counseling on substance issues, and so much more,) the Tucson Women's Commission, Southern Arizona Against Slavery, Willow Way (a survivors group), Southern Arizona Aids Foundation, the City Court, Prosecutors and police. Our Savior's Lutheran Church again served as the intake center. Clearly this isn't something we could pull off on our own at Ward 6.

Last week the police brought us a dozen ladies who chose diversion as opposed to jail. The stories this time ranged from one who has a Master's Degree and was trying to put a child through school, to a lady who needs (and chose) help getting off from substance addiction. Each of the dozen who came into the program was treated for the first time in forever as a person who has value, and not as a commodity. The burden shifts to them now to complete their individual programs (13 weeks with CODAC) and then avail themselves of the significant support that they'll be able to find through the contacts we've given to them.

Due to the sensitivity of the project, you didn't hear any publicity leading up to it this time. You'll see some media on it later this week. I appreciate the willingness of those who covered the evening to understand that the safety and future of the women whose lives were touched took precedence over the 'story.' You'll see it on KOLD (Ch.13) and Tucson News Now (Ch.11) as well as in the Star later this week.

This was our second RAISE event. We learned from the first one, and will take lessons learned into #3 when that one is scheduled.

Walmart Settlement

Last month, when the State Liquor Board denied the appeal by Walmart for a liquor license, I felt there was an opportunity to bring the sides together and work towards a settlement in which both the company and the surrounding neighborhoods could come away with things that were meaningful to them. To that end, I began the dialogue, put some opening positions on the table and the two sides worked out the details.

To their credit, they came to agreement late last week, and on Tuesday we gave the ok to the City Attorney to tell the State Liquor Board that we have no objection to their reconsidering the Walmart request for a beer/wine license.

The general terms of the agreement include a commitment by Walmart to limit their hours of operation to 6am- 11pm (with longer hours during the holiday season,) to stick with a beer/wine license for at least two years, and to refrain from selling guns/ammo while they hold a liquor license. In exchange, the neighborhoods will withdraw their objections to the license application.

I know that this has been a long-running contentious relationship between the Walmart group and several neighborhood associations who surround El Con shopping center. They deserve credit for working together and sorting out a compromise. I'm hopeful that this can serve as an example for disparate groups working to look for commonalities. It's rare that a real 'solution' is a zero-sum game where one side wins, and the other side loses. The parties who worked out this compromise should be proud to be examples of that.

Outdoor Theater

One of the benefits of this time of year in Tucson is that we can do a lot of things outdoors that we couldn't get away with in other cities, or even here at other times of the year. One example is theater in the park.

On September 20-22, 26-29 and October 3-6, with curtains at 7pm, The El Rio Theater Project will present its 7th annual Shakespeare in the Park. This year they'll show "*The Merry Wives of Windsor*." It's a Shakespearian spoof on the interactions between Sir John Falstaff and several 'gentlewomen' in his life. Legend has it that QEI commanded that Wm Shakespeare create a romantic comedy that depicted what's shown in the play.

The shows will be performed at the Himmel Park Outdoor Amphitheater (1000 N. Tucson Blvd) – all are free, and you're encouraged to bring a \$5 donation to help defray the normal costs associated with staging any sort of play.

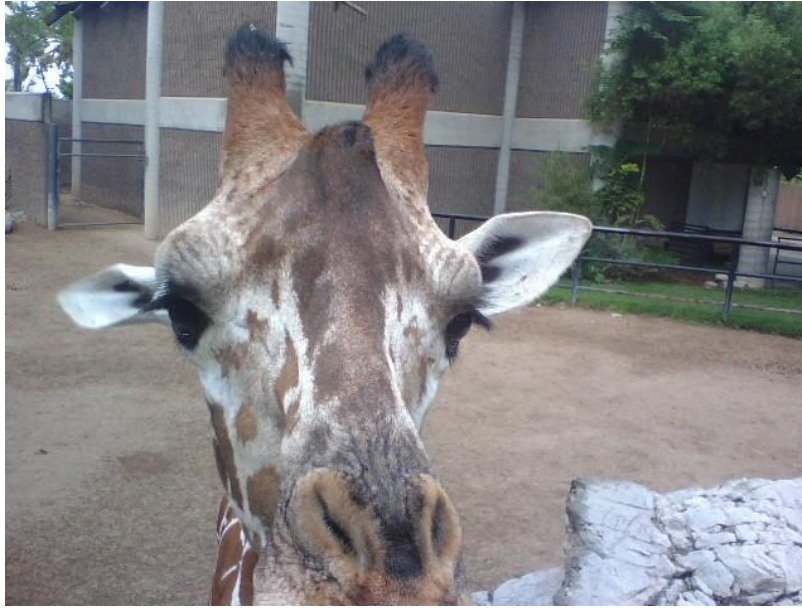
This is a blanket, picnic basket, family event. I hope you can make it for one of the performances. For more information, on Shakespeare in the Park, or the El Rio Theater Project you can visit their website at <http://tucsonshakespeareinthepark.org/>

Staff and Bride

Ok, so we go through this trauma about twice p/year. When, during a recent visit to the zoo, my staff alleged that I was beginning to look like one of their new Lemurs – and enlisted the support of my bride to keep up the pressure – I caved and got a haircut. You have to admit, the little guy's cute, although I know that's not what they had in mind...



They've got the new grizzly exhibit open, the lemurs are active, there are a pair of young elephants, and all the rest. And if you check in with staff out there, they'll make sure you get to feed this guy –



As you can see, he won't be shy when you approach him with some food.

Sincerely,

Steve Kozachik
Council Member, Ward 6
ward6@tucsonaz.gov

Arts and Entertainment Events Calendar

This week and next week at the arts and entertainment venues in the Downtown, 4th Avenue, and Main Gate areas . . .

Rialto Theatre, 318 E. Congress St.

Saturday, September 14th 6 PM **Craig Gass: (Comedy Gold)**

Monday September 16th 7 PM **Godspeed You Black Emperor with Gate**

www.RialtoTheatre.com

Fox Theatre, 17 W. Congress St.

Saturday, September 14, 2013, 7:00 pm **Solvei and ZumaSol**

Presented by Downtown 2nd Saturdays Free Admission

www.FoxTucsonTheatre.org

Loft Cinema 3233 E. Speedway

Thursday, September 12th at 7:15pm **Dan Rather Reports: Operation Streamline / Presented by AFSC Arizona** Admission Free! / Space is limited, and tickets will be given out on a first-come, first-seated basis.

www.loftcinema.com/

On Saturday, September 14, 2013, the Household Hazardous Waste Program 2nd Saturday Collection will be held at Himmel Park, 1000 N. Tucson Blvd. from 8 a.m. to noon.

Drop off of HHW is free for residents.

Ongoing**Temple of Music and Art, 330 S. Scott Ave.**

“The Importance Of Being Earnest”

Written by Oscar Wilde, Directed by Stephen Wrentmore

September 14 – October 5, 2013

www.arizonatheatre.org

Tucson Museum of Art, 140 N. Main Ave.

Ongoing exhibition: “Desert Grasslands,” and “Art + The Machine”

www.TucsonMuseumofArt.org

Children's Museum Tucson, 200 S. 6th Ave.

Tuesday - Friday: 9:00am - 5:00pm; Saturdays & Sundays: 10:00am - 5:00pm

www.childrensmuseumtucson.org

Jewish History Museum, 564 S. Stone Ave.

Open Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday, 1:00-5:00 and Friday, Noon to 3:00pm

Special hours for school and group tours, for more information call 670-9073

www.jewishhistorymuseum.org

Meet Me at Maynards

A social walk/run through the Downtown area

Every Monday, rain or shine, holidays too!

Maynards Market and Kitchen, 400 N. Toole Avenue, the historic train depot

Check-in begins at 5:15pm.

www.MeetMeatMaynards.com

Tucson Farmers' Market at Maynards

Saturdays 9:00am – 1:00pm

On the plaza at Maynards Market & Kitchen. 400 N Toole in the Historic Train Depot

Santa Cruz Farmers' Market Mercado San Agustin, 100 S. Avenida del Convento

Thursdays, 4:00 – 7:00pm.

Arizona State Museum – Woven Wonders (beginning April 28)

The Arizona State Museum is debuting a sample of 500 pieces from the world's largest collection of South-west American Indian basketry (over 25,000 pieces). Visit www.statemuseum.arizona.edu for more information.

UA Mineral Museum – Ongoing

“100 Years of Arizona's Best: The Minerals that Made the State”

Southern Arizona Transportation Museum

414 N Toole Ave.

Tuesday – Thursday, Sunday: 11:00am - 3:00pm; Friday & Saturdays: 10:00am - 4:00pm

<http://www.tucsonhistoricdepot.org/>

Himmel Park

A University of Arizona Museum of Art Presentation: What Were They Wearing? Fashion in Art Through the Ages

Wednesday, September 25th 2:30pm - 3:30pm

Using various works of art, this presentation focuses on style, fabrics, accessories, and cultural movements from the 15th Century to modern times.

For other events in the Downtown/4th Avenue/Main Gate area, visit these sites:

www.MainGateSquare.com

www.FourthAvenue.org

www.DowntownTucson.org